

Scott Dorman
November 9, 2005

Location: Moraine Park Museum, Rocky Mountain National Park

Becky Latanich: Today is Wednesday, November 9. It's the 2:30 interview with Scott Dorman, fire chief, here at the Moraine Park Museum. My first question is, can you please state your name and how long you've lived in Estes Park?

Scott Dorman: I am Scott Dorman; I have lived here for 39 years.

Becky Latanich: What motivated your family to move to Estes Park?

Scott Dorman: Well, we lived in a town called Gold Hill, which is just west of Boulder, a little mining town. And my family at the time moved up here and I was only 14, so I felt like I was not old enough to go out on my own so I'd better move with them.

And it's kind of an interesting story in that I came on horseback to town because we had a couple of horses and the only . . . we didn't have a horse trailer so I rode one of the horses from Gold Hill to here; it took 24 hours. So I came to town on horseback.

Becky Latanich: What was your first impression as you came over the hill into Estes?

Scott Dorman: Relief to finally get off that horse [laughs], but it was . . . I came down Highway 7, so didn't really go into downtown area. I had been in downtown a couple of times earlier that summer for the family, just kind of showing us where we were going to move to. And to me, it was kind of carnival-looking type of atmosphere at that time—lots of lights, neon signs, and they had arcades and things downtown. So I thought, "Boy, this is going to be pretty fun."

Becky Latanich: Now, what was the motivation for your parents to pack up and move?

Scott Dorman: A job; job motivations.

Becky Latanich: Well, when you moved here, you went to Estes Park High School.

Scott Dorman: I did.

Becky Latanich: Can you tell me a little bit about your high school experience?

Scott Dorman: My high school experience. Well, I moved here in the ninth grade. We had moved around quite a bit in previous years; originally from upstate New

York and left there in the fifth grade. And then about every year, it seemed like we were moving, for a while. So I was a little intimidated coming to a new school; I felt like it was a little difficult. But I adapted and had an okay high school experience. I wasn't really into studying as much as I probably should have been. But I made it through high school and graduated.

Becky Latanich: Now, what was it like going to school in a community that has a fairly small population?

Scott Dorman: Well, it wasn't as small as what I had just come from. So I mean, when we left Gold Hill, our family—I have ten brothers and sisters—we were half the population of that community. So moving to Estes Park was actually quite a step up as far as population-wise, so I didn't really consider it a small community at that time.

Becky Latanich: Well, great. I read that you've had a number of different kinds of jobs before settling in the position that you're in now. You seem to have done just about everything. What motivated you to try all those different things?

Scott Dorman: Well, most of those were during my high school years. I worked . . . they had kind of work study programs and things and I, you know, washed dishes and I bussed tables and I worked as a bellhop at the Stanley Hotel for a little while and I worked at McGraw Ranch for two summers. So it was just kind of to earn extra money for the family at that time. So a lot of those earlier jobs, I had quite a few different ones.

After I graduated from high school, I thought I wanted to be an aircraft mechanic, so I went to school down in Broomfield, Colorado Aerotech, to become an aircraft, AMT, mechanic.

During that time, I kind of got interested in electronics and I started in the electronics field, working with cable TV, and then also eventually working as an electrical contractor; getting my license and all of that.

Becky Latanich: Did you always harbor an interest in the firefighting profession, or was this something you stumbled upon?

Scott Dorman: Oh, no. I actually--actually, my mom even had given me a picture, a photograph, that she had taken when I was about two—diapers drooping with . . . washing a fire chief's truck; or, car. I had always . . . (it was a pedal car) and I had always wanted to be a firefighter. I think every little boy always . . . it's something that they always want to do. So it was always in the back of my mind that that's what I wanted to do. In Estes Park, I never thought about it ever being a career, but it was always an

interest.

Becky Latanich: Well, I see that you've brought us some examples of different hats that you're worn during your career, or just different hats that are representative of. . . ?

Scott Dorman: These are all different hats that I have worn since I've been on the fire department, and I've been on for, now, 22 years. This was the first hat that I'd worn. At that time, we just put tape across to put your name, and it had worn off so I just put a new one on there; and they just wrote your name on there.

But as a rookie, at that time, you got all the old equipment—which you still do as a rookie nowadays, but our equipment's a little bit better. The bunker gear that we wore was real heavy then; it was canvas on the outside with wool liner, so it was very heavy and bulky. And this was the helmet—probably not a lot of protection, but it gave me some. That was the first one I wore that first year.

And then I graduated up to this helmet. You see they're all . . . actually, they're kind of black. It's not dirt; it's actually smoke that's burned into the helmet so it won't wash off. But I wore this one for quite a few years. This was the newer style at that time; urban-style helmet.

Then when I became a chief, I got the same style helmet but moved up to a white helmet. And you can see this one's been pretty hot at times as well. I wore this one for . . . let's see, about . . . I got this in '97, so I wore it until just last year.

Then we changed to a new helmet, which is this style. And since it's fairly new, it looks new; it hasn't had very much exposure to fire yet at this point, but. . .

Becky Latanich: Now, as fire chief, how often do you actually go out on fires, or what makes that . . . determines that?

Scott Dorman: Well, we have . . . run under what's called incident command system. So the first firefighter that arrives on scene is actually the incident commander. So they run the fire unless it's too large or something that they can't handle, and then they will transfer command up to the next officer or to the chief. Many times, the chief is the first one on scene because the chiefs, whether it's myself or one of my assistants, go directly to the fire, where everybody else has to go to the fire station first to get the apparatus and then go to the fire. So quite often, we are the first ones on scene. And as first one on scene, we are . . . our job is to organize and

orchestrate what's going on—to make sure that the other apparatus is placed properly, we have the right equipment that's responding, and kind of prioritize what needs to be done, whether it's rescue or fire suppression or whatever.

Quite often, I will find myself not in the commander position, but I will be working as a firefighter. And those are kind of the best times because then I don't have to worry about anything else except doing one specific job. And, like all firefighters, we enjoy going inside and doing the hot work, I guess.

Becky Latanich: Well, what sorts of positions have you held in the fire department?

Scott Dorman: I have been a training officer; I've been a safety officer; been an assistant chief; of course, chief. Just your firefighter. I've been a dive team member as one of the original founders of our dive rescue team. We had four members that started a dive team and I'm the only one that's still on the department. I also helped start our EMS program. I first got on, I wanted to become an EMT, so I was an EMT for 14 years as well. So I've had a lot of different hats and different types of things throughout the years.

Becky Latanich: Now, what was the motivation to become fire chief? Was it just a logical progression or. . . ?

Scott Dorman: I felt that there were some . . . an area that I could make some changes in that I felt like needed to be made. I was asked by some of the other members if maybe I would want to step up into that position; I was already an assistant chief at that time. And it was kind of a natural progression. I don't think, when I originally got on as a firefighter, I ever thought about being the fire chief. I think I just got on wanting to be a firefighter, so that was maybe exciting enough.

Becky Latanich: Well, great. What do you find to be the most challenging aspect about being the fire chief?

Scott Dorman: The most challenging aspect. It would have to be the motivation of the volunteers. I'm dealing with a lot of different personalities, a lot of different age groups. As volunteer firefighters, I've got really young people and some older firefighters as well. And trying to find out what motivates those people and interests them to keep coming to fires and to keep doing the training.

It's not like we're a New York City department where there's so much excitement going on every day that just responding to calls is excitement enough. We don't have that situation—even though our call volume has

been increasing, there still has to be something done to motivate the people. And also for retention, to keep them on the department. It used to be that . . . when I first got on, we ran about 85 calls a year, I think, that first year. We're running about 500 calls now a year, so that has helped in the motivation.

But we also look at how long people are staying on. It was very common, back then, for the firefighters to do 20 years of service. Volunteerism isn't the same as it used to be, and nationally, a volunteer firefighter does three years. We do much better than that; we're probably up around seven or eight years, on an average, for a firefighter, and we feel lucky if we can get ten years out of a firefighter. Not to say that we still don't have some that are putting in the 20 years, but it's a far less number now than it used to be.

Becky Latanich: What do you think's responsible for that shift in volunteerism?

Scott Dorman: I think quite a few different things. One is just the economics of it. Back when I first started, 22 years ago, there weren't so many . . . households didn't need both parents working to bring in enough income to pay the bills. There was more time available.

We didn't run as many calls so the training wasn't quite as rigid so there was a lot more time available for them to donate to the department. That time is very limited now.

And I think that a lot of the younger firefighters that come in to be a volunteer look at it as maybe a steppingstone to become a career. So some of it's attitude, some of it's just the economics of the era now.

Becky Latanich: How have you seen the balance of men and women in the volunteer positions change over your tenure there?

Scott Dorman: Men and women—as far as men and women firefighters, or. . . ?

Becky Latanich: Volunteers, yes.

Scott Dorman: The . . . when we first started, we didn't have any women on the department; when I first started, I should say. And it wasn't until probably about eight or nine years ago that we had our first woman firefighter. And that was probably quite a change for the firefighters themselves, to diversify and to realize that, yes, women can do this job just as well as they can. And unfortunately, just because of the size of our community we don't get very many women that try out. But I'm not sure if I answered your question or not. Right now, we don't have any women on the

department; the last one that we had moved out of the area.

Becky Latanich: Good. What sorts of . . . actually, what do you feel has been your greatest accomplishment since becoming fire chief?

Scott Dorman: My greatest accomplishment as a firefighter or fire chief or as personal accomplishments?

Becky Latanich: It could be either.

Scott Dorman: Well, personally, it would have to be just being able to make a good living in Estes Park. I mean, that's a challenge for a lot of people. And to be able to live here and be able to build a home and to have a living, I feel like that's a . . . and have a great family. I have six kids and five grandkids and one on the way, and be able to have all that, that's a great personal accomplishment.

Professionally, I would think it's taking the department from where it was as far as even how it was, a very professional department, and moving it up even a step higher and making it more professional, and continuing on with what I was taught and sharing that information and knowledge with the new firefighters that are coming in. So hopefully, leading us in a new direction to do our jobs safer and more professionally.

Becky Latanich: How do you think the Estes Park Fire Department compares with other communities of the same size?

Scott Dorman: Of the same size, I think that we are doing an extremely good job. I think that we would be right at the top of any of the others. We take training and safety very seriously. Our members are some of the most dedicated people I've ever met and I think that that shows in our responses and just the commitment that they have to go to the extra trainings and to respond to calls in the middle of the night and do all of that.

We have increased our ISO rating, which is Insurance Services Offices rating, from a Class 6 to a Class 4, which equates to quite a bit of savings to the community in insurance premiums. Just for them to be able to want to go that extra step to do that is not anything that was really asked of them to do, but they felt like it was something more they could do to the community; not just responding to calls but we saw an area where we could help the community financially and . . . by becoming a better fire department and doing certain things. And that was a big accomplishment for the firefighters to do that.

Becky Latanich: What do you think is responsible for the increased number of calls over

the past couple of decades?

Scott Dorman: A couple of things. One is our scope of services. When I first got on, a fire department responded to fire-related incidents. We did some rescue-type things but no medical, we didn't do any ambulance type of calls or extrications; that was all done by a private ambulance service at that time, even the vehicle extrications. We didn't do any of the hazardous materials cleanup; we didn't have a dive team. So a lot of it is just increasing, or expanding, our scope of services. We do a lot more to the community. The community expects a lot more from us so we provide those services. So of course, that's going to increase our call volume.

Another item is just population growth. I mean, we've seen a tremendous growth in population in our area and because of that, of course, our call volume's going to go up as well.

Becky Latanich: Good. Well, you've hinted at that, but how do you feel like Estes Park has changed in general over the years?

Scott Dorman: I would say that a lot of it is because of the population that we've had; growth. Also, Estes Park, when I first came here as a 14-year-old, it was pretty much a summertime community. People moved here to try to work in the tourist trade, but there was also residents that came for the whole summer, so you had the summer residents. And then the tourists came up and then they left after Labor Day, and we kind of rolled up the streets and the sidewalks and, really, we didn't have anybody around here. It was very quiet in the wintertime.

They've expanded that now to be more of a three-seasons, almost—you have the spring, summer, and fall. Which helps the economy of the town, but it also . . . those summer residents, I don't see as much as . . . the ones that came for the whole summer. You see people that come for shorter periods of time, a lot more of them. And also, a lot more people come to retire, which we didn't have that as much then.

So we've seen a change in how . . . why people come here as far as . . . you know, originally just to come as tourists and now it's becoming quite a retirement community. So I've seen that change.

That was a major change, and also just the growth in the area. A lot of the subdivisions that are up there now . . . I can remember when those were just open fields and forested areas and dirt roads going there, and now they're smaller communities out there.

Becky Latanich: How do you think Estes Park's position as a tourist community has

affected the fire department? It certainly must make it different than other communities of the same size.

Scott Dorman: I would say . . . yeah, if you're comparing . . . most communities of our size, unless you're right in the Front Range, are probably tourist-based in Colorado. So I think that . . . I haven't really lived in another community our size to kind of compare personally of how that would be. But I know that the tourists are one of our . . . I wouldn't say our major contributors to our service, or needs for . . . or people that need our service, but they do. And we have to look at what types of services we need to provide for them. I think the Park Service, probably it affects them more than it does to us because they do a lot of rescues from the tourists. And we get involved with some of that, but not as much as the National Park Service does.

The amount of motor vehicle accidents that we have increases over the summer. A lot of those, though, aren't necessarily tourists. I would say . . . we did a study on that, and half of those weren't tourists, they were locals, in the summertime. It could have been that because of the traffic volume or something, maybe assisted in the MVA occurring to start with. But it has increased our level of response of calls and the need for the calls that we respond to as well.

Becky Latanich: How do you think the public perception of the fire department has changed over the years you've been. . . .?

Scott Dorman: I think it . . . public perception. The department, like most departments, smaller fire departments, 20 years ago or longer, were also kind of a social club for the volunteers. There weren't as many calls and the community recognized that, I think, as well. I think back then, they still had a good community support.

I believe that we have great community support now. I think that there is more expected of us now as firefighters than there was 20 years ago. Part of that is because of some things that have happened in the world in the last few years. They look to the fire department to be able to take care of those situations, and some of it is because of media coverage, where they see other fire departments doing that, so they expect that from us as well. And we have to kind of step up to the plate, and there isn't anybody else that we can say, "Well, you handle this part and we'll do this." So we have to train for all of those unexpected things and that's . . . I think the perception of the public towards us is that if you need help, the fire department's going to come.

Becky Latanich: [Inaudible] Could you tell me a little bit about your volunteers—what sets

them apart? What sort of qualities you look for in a group?

Scott Dorman: I think . . . we look for somebody that has the right attitude to want to be able to leave their anniversary dinner to go out and help somebody else; have to get up in the middle of the night because a drunk driver drove into the river and not judge that person. It takes a certain personality to be able to do that.

And also, to know that they're committed to all this additional training that they're going to have to do.

We want somebody that is physically capable of doing that training so we have incorporated into our recruitment process now a series of tests that we have our new recruits go through, starting with a written exam. Then they have to do a physical agility test, which is based on the national physical test that career firefighters use. And then we also have an oral interview that they go through, and then they have to pass a physical.

So if they make all of those and they pass, they go through . . . the only subjective part is the oral interview part, and that's kind of where we get a feeling for their attitude, making sure that they're a right fit.

We also, then, have a six-month probationary period to see if they are the right person for us and if we're the right thing for them. It doesn't always work out and that's the time where we shake hands and say goodbye. But most of the time, it works out for us and for them.

Becky Latanich: You mentioned that there's sort of a social atmosphere, or had been, as being part of a volunteer fire department. Do you think that that social atmosphere still exists? Has it changed at all?

Scott Dorman: Oh, no; it most definitely exists. A little differently, probably, but it still exists. It's not . . . I don't think we're considered, or looked at, by the public; it think it's more. . . . What I was trying to say was a public perception that we were a social club where we're not now. I think publicly we're looked at as more of a professional organization. But as far as the volunteers themselves, still are very proud of being in this organization and do get some social gratification out of it as well. And we try to make it a family-oriented organization as well by having a Christmas party where we invite all the families, and other things.

Becky Latanich: I'd like to go back in time just a little bit and I'm wondering why you chose to stay in Estes Park with so many opportunities elsewhere.

Scott Dorman: I love it here. I love the area. I was sorry to see Hidden Valley go away,

but I just love being in the area that's familiar to me.

I think part of it was because when I was younger, I moved around a lot. And when I had children, I didn't want to put them through that, to have them move and go to a different school all the time, so I wanted to have some stability for them and I stayed here for that reason. I think I just . . . I felt safe in the mountains, I guess.

Becky Latanich: Do you think that you've missed out on any opportunities by having not gone elsewhere or do you think that you've been able to advance as professionally forward as you've gotten to here?

Scott Dorman: I think I'm very happy where I am. I'm sure that I probably missed opportunities. I don't have any regrets about staying here at all.

Becky Latanich: What is the fire department's relationship to the town and how has that changed?

Scott Dorman: Well, the fire department's relationship with the town is we're technically a municipal department so we're under the auspices of the town board. They pay for our insurances and they pay my salary and they own the building and the apparatus and all of that.

The volunteer organization, as far as the firefighters, Estes Park Volunteer Fire Department, Incorporated, is a separate 501(c)(4) organization that's a nonprofit, which just incorporates the volunteers themselves. So they have their own . . . we have their own business meetings for them. It's been a very amicable relationship between the volunteers and the town since 1907.

We also respond outside the city limits, not because we have to but because nobody else responds there so we kind of pick that up as kind of a moral obligation to do. The town has been very generous on assisting us in funding the organization even though we respond outside the city limits on half of our calls. On major purchases, it has been in past years that the town would put up half of the funding and the volunteers would then raise the other half through fund drives and . . . whether it's doing a mailing, a fund-raising mailing, or through our crafts fair that we have. So it's been a very workable relationship. I think both organizations get a lot out of it. And I'm getting paged here. [Recording is paused]

Becky Latanich: [Talk off mic] All right. When you first moved to Estes Park, what sorts of jobs did you hold, if any, downtown and what was downtown like and how have you seen it change?

Scott Dorman:

Well, let's see. When I first moved to Estes Park, like I said earlier, it was a kind of carnival-type atmosphere. It had some arcades, like between the Wheel Bar there and there's an alley that went through there down to where the Dark Horse Theater was still there. And there was, like, throw-the-ball arcades, shoot-the-gun, all those—just like a carnival atmosphere.

We moved here in August so there were a lot of people in town, a lot of people walking around town, it seemed like, at that point. The streets weren't quite as wide then and there were a lot more people, it seemed like, walking.

They had the Doghouse Restaurant, which was just a little kind of hole in the wall open to the sidewalk type of food service that sold corn on the cob and (great corn on the cob; it'd drip down your arm and everything) and also hamburgers and things. So it was just a very fun type atmosphere at that time. A lot of neon lights, neon signs, flashing.

So quite different from what it looks like downtown now. I don't believe there were any sign codes enforced at that point and a lot of different type of storefronts.

And as far as the jobs that I held, I didn't ever hold a job right downtown. I worked at the Timberline Steakhouse, which is out on Highway 7 a little ways, as a dishwasher there for a while, and bussed some tables.

And then I worked at the Stanley Hotel for a couple of months during the summer as a bellhop—ran the elevator up and down; that was a lot of fun. And never saw any ghosts, but . . . everybody always told me about them, but I never saw them.

Then I worked . . . I think my first job actually wasn't in town, it was out at McGraw Ranch, and I stayed there for the whole summer. I couldn't drive so I think it was a way for my mom to get rid of me, I think, for the summer. One less kid, you know. [Chuckles] So I stayed out there for the whole summer. I think I got paid \$100 a month and that included room and board. And by the end of the summer, I had the whole \$300 because I didn't have any place to spend it. So I felt like I was a rich man.

So I had a lot of different types of jobs like that. Then I also . . . when I was in high school, during the school year, then I also held a couple of jobs through work study. The first one was the Estes Park Improvement . . . or, Improvement Association or something like that. It was kind of a hardware-type store and I think I stocked shelves. I think I'm even in one of the yearbooks—they've got a picture of me dusting off something, I don't know. And what else I did—a lot of different jobs just to earn some

extra money.

One of the things that happened, kind of a sad story, is my . . . we hadn't lived here very long and my father was killed in a car accident. Actually, he was delivering a . . . worked as a salesman for a machine company in Boulder, and then he was delivering . . . driving a big semi and was killed on the Interstate in Nebraska. So here's my mom with ten kids, so that was pretty tough on her. So us older ones, then a lot of the money that we earned went to the family to help support the family at that time. We got to keep a little of it but. . . So it was an interesting time; I had to grow up fast.

Becky Latanich: Well, I was wondering, what do you remember of the Lawn Lake Flood?

Scott Dorman: Lawn Lake Flood. I was working for the local cable television company at that time, in '82. Is that right—'82? Yeah. And I remember it was a beautiful day, and I just was listening to the local radio station and then they started talking about preparing for the flood that was going to come downtown.

So we . . . some of us went down and kind of watched it come in from higher ground. It was quite an amazing sight to see a lot of those trailers and things being washed out of the Fall River Village there, and the water's coming through town, and just how fast that happened when it hit the town. You know, there was quite a bit of notice before it got to the town, but it's, like, "A flood. It's a beautiful sky out. What's going on here?"

It was a bad thing that happened to the town, but it was also a good thing as far as it brought about some economic changes, it brought about the whole urban renewal of the downtown area, which unfortunately hurt some people to have that happen, but it also assisted the town to be able to improve . . . make a lot of major improvements in the downtown area, which they have.

Becky Latanich: What do you recall of the Big Thompson Flood?

Scott Dorman: Big Thompson Flood. What I recall most of all is that it's the day my son was born. Again, actually, that day I was up in the National Park fishing and thunderstorms came in and it started raining so I left and . . . I was fly-fishing up there and came down and then my sister-in-law stopped me on the highway and said my wife went into labor.

So I then went right to the hospital, which was up here. And then while we're in there, we're hearing the helicopters and the rain and the lightning.

It seemed like it was a pretty bad storm, but most of the storm, I was inside the hospital area there and because of all of the action, everything that was going on at that point, the nurses were pretty busy.

And actually, I wound up delivering my son myself in the hospital, which was quite interesting. I wasn't an EMT at that point, but I learned a few years later what I was supposed to do; but I did okay. Everything's worked out. And that was on July 31, 1976.

I think after the flood is when there was a lot of miscommunication, not knowing what was going on down in the canyon. Estes Park itself wasn't really affected that much, but the . . . other than the economic factor, as far as not having the tourists be able to come up any longer. But the devastation was mostly east of town and then down the canyon.

I wasn't involved in the cleanup effort very much down there. I was involved . . . I was working for the cable television company so I did a lot of repairs of lines and things like that, but as far as in the canyon . . . and I wasn't on the fire department yet at that point.

Becky Latanich: Well, you have mentioned that the fire department responds to many calls that are outside city limits and I was wondering, what communities do you serve and what sorts of different calls do you receive out there as opposed to in the city?

Scott Dorman: The types of calls we receive are the same whether we're in or out. And they're much right down the middle as far as . . . the only thing that we probably respond more to outside of city limits than inside would be wildland fires.

The types of calls that we respond to in the area . . . we cover about 100 square miles of area now, which we go down Highway 34 to mile marker 70.5, which is just past Seven Pines Motel there. Then we go Highway 36 to mile marker 8, which is Lyons Gulch Trailhead. Highway 7, we go to mile marker 5.5, which is about halfway up to the Baldpate Inn on Highway 7 there. And we cover to the National Park boundary. And then on County Road 43 going to Glen Haven, we go to the top of the switchbacks. We also cover, through a mutual aid agreement, all of the structures in Rocky Mountain National Park on this side of the Continental Divide, which includes the Trail Ridge Store on top.

So that's the area, so it's a quite extensive area. Most of it is forested area. We . . . types of calls . . . wildland fires, which we've had two major fires within our area—not within our response area, but very close to our response area—which have been the Bobcat Fire and the Big Elk Fire.

And then, we also respond to dive rescue-type incidents, hazardous materials cleanup and accidents, which we do operations-level type hazardous materials.

And then we also respond to all kinds of fires and rescues, involving structure fires and motor vehicle rescues, accidents; we have a lot of motor vehicle accidents we respond to. A lot of extrications. We have done searches, we've assisted the National Park and the county in doing searches and rescues. We even have done two cave rescues since I've been here. I won't tell you where the caves are so nobody will go and get stuck. [Chuckles]

We have . . . it covers most things. If you don't know who else to call, you call the fire department and then we respond. And we also do a lot of medical calls now that . . . I would say that probably takes about a third of our calls, about 30 percent of our calls are medical calls where we assist the ambulance service. And depending on the severity of the incident, we may be paged the same time as them or it may be that both of the ambulances are out on other calls and a third call will come in and then we'll respond to that, so . . . which happens quite often in the summertime with the tourists.

Becky Latanich:

And what do you see in the future for the fire department?

Scott Dorman:

I would say services are going to probably still expand as needed; whatever is needed in the community. There might be things out there that we aren't even aware of yet. I think a lot more preplanning that we will do, for instance.

We're going to have to . . . the department's going to have to grow as the community grows, and so will our number of stations. Right now, we operate out of one station; we're in negotiation with getting a second station built in the Park.

As the community expands, we're going to have to expand as well and we're going to have to be able to respond to those other areas within a certain length of time because the general public expects you to be there within a certain period of time. And we're going to have to do what we can to meet those.

Some of our challenges are going to be financial challenges to be able to do that since we're not a taxing district; we are a municipal department.

Becky Latanich:

Well, is there anything else you'd like to add?

Scott Dorman: I'm not sure; I think I've pretty much told you my whole life [Laughs]

Becky Latanich: I sure would like to thank you for joining us this afternoon.

Scott Dorman: Well, you're welcome.

Becky Latanich: It was nice to talk with you.

Scott Dorman: Thank you for inviting me.

Becky Latanich: You're quite welcome. [Good-byes]

Interview Ends

